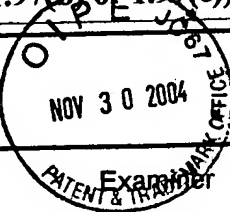


12-01-04 Ifw

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.  
VI/02-022

In Re Application Of: **KALAFUT, et al.**



Application No.

10/729,434

Filing Date

12/06/2003

RUHL

Customer No.

21140

Group Art Unit

3737

Confirmation No.

8371

Title:

**DEVICES, SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR IMPROVING VESSEL ACCESS**

Address to:

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**37 CFR 1.97(b)**

1. ☒ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

**37 CFR 1.97(c)**

2. ☐ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:
- ☐ the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);
- OR**
- ☐ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

NOV 30 2004

(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.

VI/02-022

Re Application: **KALAFUT, et al**

Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
10/729,434	12/06/2003	RUHL	21140	3737	8371

**DEVICES, SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR IMPROVING VESSEL ACCESS**

**Payment of Fee**

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account \_\_\_\_\_ as described below.
- ☐ Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
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I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on 11/30/2004 \_\_\_\_\_ th the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
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Page A. Cedarholm

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**\*This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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CC:



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Application of: ) Group Art Unit: 3737  
)  
KALAFUT et al. ) Examiner: Ruhl, Dennis W.  
)  
Serial No. 10/729,434 )  
)  
Filed: 6 December 2003 ) Docket No.: VI/02-022  
)  
)  
Title: DEVICES, SYSTEMS AND )  
METHODS FOR IMPROVING )  
VESSEL ACCESS ) Date: 30 November 2004

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir/Madam:

Applicants submit this *Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)* to comply with the duty of disclosure as codified in 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, this *IDS* is thus filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). This *IDS* contains, and/or is accompanied by, the information required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

Applicants request the Examiner to consider each of the references listed on FORM PTO-1449 (attached hereto), and to enter the same into the record of this application for patent. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a) and (d), copies of the U.S. patents and publications listed on FORM(s) PTO-1449 are not provided. Copies of the other references listed on FORM(s) PTO-1449, however, accompany this *IDS*.

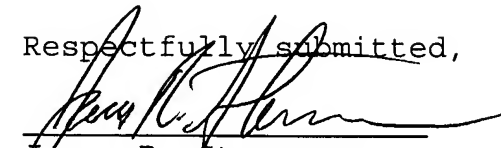
This IDS discloses information that may be considered relevant to the aforementioned application for patent. Because such information may be deemed relevant to the patentability of this pending application, the documents listed above are now made of record to assist the USPTO in its examination. The Examiner is respectfully requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) to consider these documents fully and to independently ascertain their relevance to the pending application.

Applicants believe that certain of the references cited herein or in the accompanying FORM(s) PTO-1449 are not or may not be prior art to the application, and therefore reserve the right to assert that one or more of such references is not prior art to this application. Moreover, Applicants believe it may be able to successfully swear behind many, if not all, of such references based on prior conception and/or reduction to practice.

Applicants respectfully ask the Examiner to initial the attached PTO-1449 form(s) in the places indicated and to return a copy of such initialed form(s) to the undersigned as evidence that the cited documents were considered during examination of the pending application.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this *IDS*, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the phone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



James R. Stevenson  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 38,755

Medrad, Inc.  
One Medrad Drive  
Indianola, PA 15051-0780  
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FACSIMILE: (412) 767-8899

**If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.**

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		Application Number	10/729,434
		Filing Date	12/6/2003
		First Named Inventor	KALAFUT, et al.
		Art Unit	3737
Examiner Name	KUHL, Dennis W.		
Sheet 2	of 2	Attorney Docket Number	VI/02-022

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	AD	ESSENTIALS OF IV THERAPY, Module 1: Peripheral IV Catheter Insertion, Care and Maintenance, Section 1 (pp. 1-23), Baxter Healthcare Corporation (c)1995-2002	
	AE	ESSENTIALS OF IV THERAPY, Module 1: Peripheral IV Catheter Insertion, Care and Maintenance, Section 2 (pp. 1-9), Baxter Healthcare Corporation (c)1995-2002	
	AF	INJECTION STAND (website advertisement), Pinestar Technology, Inc. (www.pinestart.com) 3 March 2003	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)**Applicant(s): **KALAFUT, et al.**

Docket No.

**VI/02-022**

Application No.

**10/729,434**

Filing Date

**12/06/2003**

Examiner

**RUHL**

Customer No.

**21140**

Group Art Unit

**3737**Invention: **DEVICES, SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR IMPROVING VESSEL ACCESS**

NOV 30 2004

PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that the following correspondence:

**Transmittal Letter of Information Disclosure Statement; Information Disclosure Statement; 1449A; 1449B; Cited Documentation; Post Card***(Identify type of correspondence)*

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

**November 30, 2004***(Date)***Page A. Cedarholm***(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)*  
*(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)***EV521475178US***("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number)***Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.**